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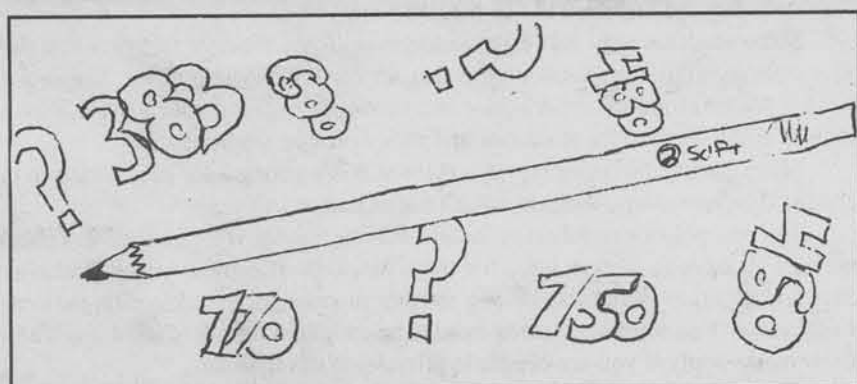
# Paladin

Volume V Issue I

October 2nd, 1996

Glastonbury, Connecticut

FREE



## Glastonbury SAT Scores On A Decline

By Tom Coenen

The Scholastic Aptitude Test, also known as SAT, is one of the major concerns of juniors and seniors in high schools across the nation. Glastonbury High School has traditionally put a lot of emphasis on the SATs, encouraging students to prepare for the test through the SAT-preparation course offered at the high school and through preparation with private companies, such as Kaplan, which offers courses in Glastonbury, and Princeton Review, which has an office in West Hartford.

Because of the emphasis GHS has put on this test, students have consistently performed well above the state and national averages for the SATs. Glastonbury has also kept close watch on the scores from year to year to assure that scores remain fairly consistent with each graduating class. During the first week of school, Dr. Bonnie Gordon, Director of Guidance reported the average SAT score of the Class of '96. Ninety one percent of the class took the SATs,

and Glastonbury once again outperformed the state and national mean in both the math and verbal sections of the test. Students scored an average of 536 in math, compared to the state average of 504 and the national average of 508 and an average of 538 in verbal, compared to the state average of 507 and the national average of 505.

The bad news, however is that Glastonbury's verbal scores were the lowest in five years, with a mean of 538 compared to the mean of 542 for the Class of '95 and a math mean of 536 compared to a mean of 545 from the previous year.

Although the SAT scores have been important to colleges in the past, they are gradually losing significance as colleges are looking more at students' high school transcripts and extra-curricular activities. GHS is also focusing less on the importance of the SATs and no longer using the students' scores as a measure of the school's success.

## Girls Soccer on Right Track to Title

by Rich Ginel

What would you think if Brazil was going to play a Russian National team in soccer? Yes, soccer. Well, I think everyone would be in agreement with who would win and by how much. That type of game is what we would come to expect from our girls soccer team whenever they played a team like Weaver.

On Thursday, September 19, Glastonbury gave us exactly what they are capable of. The tone of a game is usually set in the first few minutes. Neither one could tell if a certain game would be a tough, defensive game, a wide open offensive minded game, or a sloppy, error filled game. After the opening kick, Glastonbury quickly gained control, sent the ball up the right half of the field, and Senior Kate Robinson unleashed a shot from close to twenty yards out.

Although the Weaver goalkeeper just extended her hands above her head in time to make the save, Robinson exhibited what the tone was going to be: Constant and overwhelming pressure. One minute later, Senior Erin O'Grady, 1995 All-Conference, All-State, and All-New England award winner, practically walked through the Weaver defense and pushed the ball past the keeper for an early 1-0 lead.

By the end of the forty minute half, Glastonbury had scored eight more times and Weaver, well ... Weaver was still struggling for their first shot. Contributors to those goals were Freshman Jen Zieky, Juniors Theresa Brancieri (two goals), Sarah Sargent, Seniors Ashley Flanigan, Robinson, again O'Grady, and All-Conference, All-State, and All-New England star Stephanie Fish. The game would end with those very same statistics, Glastonbury 9 - Weaver 0.

Seeing the game as out of reach, an abbreviated half was played. Weaver did show signs of life in the second when twice they broke past the Glastonbury defense, but both keepers, Juniors Catherine Thompson and Liz Middleton remained untested due to the defense's quick recovery. Thompson started the game and played half of the second when Middleton was subbed in for the remainder. Weaver was the third opponent

Glastonbury has faced this year.

Wednesday, September 11, the girls opened against 1995 CCC East Champions South Windsor. Trying to avenge one of two losses on the 1995 year, Glastonbury came back to tie 1-1 on an O'Grady goal one minute and ten seconds after S. Windsor broke the 0-0 deadlock.

The extremely tight play of the first half was shadowed by the wide open play of the second. Opportunities were squandered by both clubs to win, causing it to end at the same score. With seconds remaining in the final overtime period, Sophomore Meghan Roscio broke up what was going to be a South Windsor scoring chance.

The ball was sent up the field where O'Grady had one final chance. O'Grady couldn't connect on a crossing pass just a split second off the mark. Great effort-just short. Glastonbury brought an 0-0-1 record to Simsbury to face their wonderful friends from Simsbury.

Twice last year Simsbury fell short on the scoreboard to Glastonbury and hoped this time would be better. Sorry Simsbury, you lost, again. Fish, Sargent, and O'Grady found the back of the net in the 3-1 victory, upping their record to 1-0-1.

The Simsbury Coach stood on the sidelines baffled by Glastonbury's play. Glastonbury lead 1-0 by half time and played a great second half. Their defense took over the game completely handing the Simsbury squad their first loss of the year. In the last three years the Glastonbury girls team has improved from a 12-4 record in 1993 to a 17-2 record in 1995.

Last year was their most productive year having at one point the #1 ranking in the state and reaching the state tournament semifinals. They lost seven seniors from the 1995 team and have a handful of juniors on the team now. Fish, O'Grady, Flanigan, and Junior Meredith Barnes are among the players that returned to the team and will no doubt, show the leadership necessary to win. With the start of this year's club, to come up short of a State Championship would be tough for the team to take.

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# Editorial Page

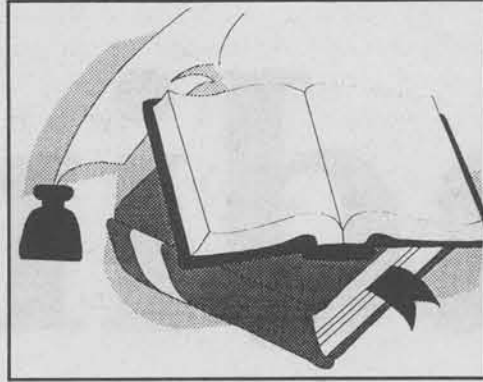
## To the Editor:

I am writing on account of the new mandatory reading program for high school students over the summer. It requires that each student read at least two books during the summer. Teachers may also give an assignment or general quiz about the reading. All of this has been decided without the consent of the people who make Glastonbury High School, the students.

Like many students, I have worked extremely hard to make honor roll and keep my grades high. This often meant long hours of studying. Vacations were precious gifts, giving me a much needed break from the rigors of school. Then came the arrival of summer and June 26. And last came two sheets of paper with books listed on it saying I must read at least two of them. What authority gives G.H.S the right to assign me work during the summer? Who gives them the permission to tell me how to spend my time when school is over? Summer is not just a time of waking up late. While many teachers are taking overdue vacations, many students get part time or full time jobs. It is a time for maturation and learning more responsibility. Not everyone has time to read two books let alone one.

My English teacher told the class, "The reading is for your enjoyment." How can I enjoy a book when I have someone telling me I have to have it finished by a certain date and that I may

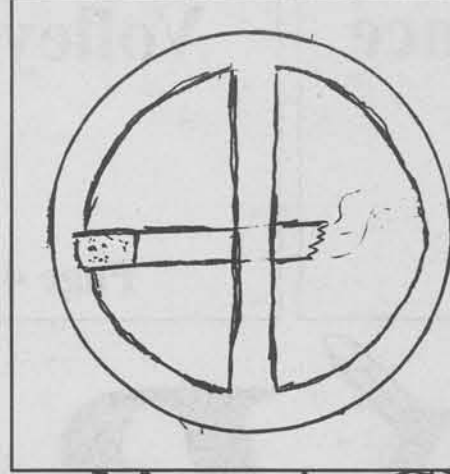
have an assignment on it? They say read it at your leisure. The American heritage Dictionary defines leisure as, "Freedom from time-consuming duties, responsibilities, or activities." Needing to have two books finished by a certain date indicates a responsibility to me. I don't see how I can enjoy a book with all that hanging over my head.



**Cherry**  
High School is violating the summers of its students. They are assigning work over a time when school is not in session. How

can they expect students to enjoy themselves while they read? When you read, you read out of pleasure, not because you are told you have to. Students should have the right to choose if they want to read and what it is they want to read. If the administration thinks that it is only the average student that is against this, then they are wrong. Almost every level 1 English class has also voiced a negative opinion. I know because I'm in one. Even some students who have a book with them on a regular basis don't like the idea of the administration telling them what to do in regards to literature. The administration has gone too far in controlling the lives of its students. If the administration wants us to read more books, then they should go about in a way that does not effect the student's summer freedom.

Respectfully,  
Gregory Firestone



## Smoking At GHS?

By Janet Couture

To all you smokers at GHS take my advice, quit now before you get yourself in more trouble than you can imagine. Most of you know that Dr Bookman has a new favorite policy every year, and this year he's decided to stop the bathroom-butts between classes. The new policy came about to stop smoking by creating harsher punishments than before. When asked, Dr. Bookman stated "As for most rules in this school, they affect the person solely, for their wrong doings. However, smoking does not only hurt the smoker, but makes it an inconvenience for all the other students who just need to use the bathrooms."

Some students may recall the outdoor smoking areas at school when their older siblings were in this school; but that idea will never live again. The school does not want to condone smoking for the convince of a few students. Also, a lot of students could observe these actions and easily pick up smoking.

Many people still complain that there still is a strong odor of smoking in the school. However many students say it's not as bad as last year.

The new policies entail many things. not one teacher will turn the other cheek, and they all have their eyes open for those smokers. If caught, you will obtain a Saturday detention all the way up to a ten day suspension, or a date with the board of education. You don't necessarily need to be caught in the act of smoking. These punishments apply if you are caught in possession of cigarettes.

"These new policies aren't going to stop anyone, it's just going to get more people in trouble," says Senior Gabe Mass. That may be true, but Dr. Bookman knows who the smokers are in this school, and trust me, he has his eye on you.

## Importance of Abstinence Still Needs To Be Stressed

By Kelly Devlin

The Wellness Fair - I think all of us who were here last year went at least once. Quiz question : What is the booth that you remember? I think that most of us would say Planned Parenthood. If you don't remember it, let me remind you. Put the condom on the wooden thing correctly and receive an ever-so-stylish "latex lover" pin? It got people over to the booth, but what was the real message that students received from it?

Did anyone learn from the booth that condoms aren't 100% effective? How about the fact that each year one million teenage girls get pregnant? How about one out of five sexually active teens contract a venereal disease before they are out of high school? Or that the only sure fire way to protect yourself against venereal diseases and pregnancy is abstinence? If anyone is saying no right now they're in the majority. I didn't learn these statistics there either.

I'm not saying that promoting condom use is wrong or ineffective. What I'm getting at is that abstinence isn't stressed enough. I realize that no matter what anyone says some teens are going to have sex. Statistics show that 50% of all males have lost virginity by 15 and a half, and 50% of girls by 16.

Before you make that choice, think about the consequences. Who wants to deal with AIDS or other venereal diseases, pregnancy, or morning after rejection? What's the rush? I would hope that you consider your life to be more valuable than to risk it on something like sex.

Maybe the wellness fair taught you to use a condom. That doesn't mean you have to run out and have sex. It's O.K. to wait.

constantly. You will feel more secure of yourself and have a boost of self-confidence. Your lucky days are: 7, 11, 20

Scorpio Oct.23 - Nov.21: You'll meet someone new and automatically hit it off. You may feel a little bit over sensitive, but don't worry, you'll get over it. By the end of the month you'll be your normal self again. Your lucky days are: 10, 14, 29

Sagittarius Nov.22 - Dec.21: You will feel a bit of friction between you and a friend. You'll be edgy and ready to take a chance with something new. Take these chances and you'll be glad you did later. Your lucky days are: 8, 16, 22

Capricorn Dec.22 - Jan.19: You will be incredibly organized but nothing will go as you planned. You will get a lot of fun surprises all month long. Share your good fortunes with others, or everything will take a turn for the worse. Your lucky days are: 14, 24, 31

## Horoscopes

Aquarius Jan.20 - Feb.18: This is going to be a lucky and exciting month for all of you. Good news will come from a friend. Towards the end of the month you'll get a big surprise. Your lucky days are: 8,16, 23

Pisces Feb.19 - Mar.20: You'll start off the month in a slump, but most things will gradually pick up. Unfortunately, your school work is not one of those things. But, you'll be having a great time with your friends. Your lucky days are: 5, 17, 30

Aries Mar.21 - Apr.19: This month you will spend a lot of time day dreaming. You'll awake from this trance to settle a long standing argument. A truce will be called and you won't have to give up anything. Your lucky days are: 11, 25, 28

Taurus Apr.20 - May20: An incident at school may get you angry for a couple of days, but, if you're smart, you'll see that it was just a joke and get over it quickly. You will also experience a major change in your life. Your lucky days are: 9, 19, 21

Gemini May21 - Jun.20: A good friend will need your help, so keep an ear open for any hints. You may also be a little bit impatient. Your lucky days are: 1, 14, 22

Cancer Jun.21 - Jul.22: This month you will try lots of new things and be incredibly creative. Towards the middle of the month, the solution to a problem that has been bothering you will suddenly become perfectly clear. Your lucky days are: 4, 16, 29

Leo Jul.23 - Aug.22: October will be a month full of challenges. If you work hard and stick it out you'll see the rewards of your hard work. You may also run into some unexpected money. Your lucky days are: 6, 12, 25

Virgo Aug.23 - Sept.22: You may be a bit overwhelmed with commitments this month. Many will turn to you for advice, but if you follow your instincts, not much can go wrong. Your lucky days are: 3, 18, 20

Libra Sept.23 - Oct.22: You will be hanging out with your friends



# POINT/ COUNTER POINT

## Affirmative Action Celebrates America's Diversity

By Meghana Shah and Geoff Metz

When most people hear the words "affirmative action" they are quick to point out that it is "unfair," "prejudiced against whites," and the like. Still others argue for Glynn Custred's idea of "advancement by merit." But in truth, these people have not attempted to examine society as it stands today, nor have they considered the purposes of affirmative action and its advantages.

Thirty years ago, affirmative action programs were created and implemented President Lyndon B. Johnson by and the U.S. government. Its purpose was to offer some compensation for the prejudice faced by minorities and women and a means for advancement for these suppressed groups. The government mandated that specific quotas of minorities be hired for employment, admitted to universities, and given other opportunities. Ideally, a successful system was not intended to last indefinitely, but to make itself obsolete through its actions.

Unfortunately, our country has not reached this point yet. Racial problems still exist several decades later, and until they are diminished, we must keep this mildly preferential system to award opportunities to all who deserve them. Supreme Court judge, Sandra Day O'Connor, defended affirmative action by noting "the unhappy persistence of both the practice and lingering effects of racial discrimination against minority groups in the country." We live in a country where the majority of influential positions are still held by white males. Approximately 44 % of the labor force is composed of white males, but 90% of senior management positions are held by this group, along with 80% of the Congress, 90% of the Senate, and

80% of tenured university faculty. White men do not hold a biological or intellectual advantage over others, but take on the role society prepares them for. African Americans and other minorities have the lack this advantage which prevents their equal participation in the American economy. Few Republicans are willing to explain the advancement by merit theory as it applies here. Many educated Latinos, African Americans, and women of all races have equal potential to be leaders in the corporate and political worlds, but it is lack of opportunity, not merit, which keeps them from these positions.

Last week, in C.I., Richard Doll pointed out that "every region of the world" was represented in the auditorium. Though Glastonbury hardly ranks amongst the most diverse towns in this country, we are still fortunate to have this potpourri of cultures to learn from. Students in a monoracial environment do not receive such enriching experiences in high school, and thankfully are often exposed to the true makeup of our country in college. Affirmative action in the college admission process makes this possible for all students.

Similarly, all-white CEO's, male presidents, and male dominated fields suggests an ethnic and gender unbalance in a group of leaders. Affirmative action offers opportunities to create a group of leaders that truly embodies the diversity and uniqueness of America. In institutions in which affirmative action programs are employed will surely experience an ease in racial tensions, as people realize their differences are minimal and that they all share the pride of living in a country with a celebration of cultures.

## The Right Point of View

By Traci Lawson

There you are, one fine autumn afternoon, filling out an application for the college of your dreams. You answer all of the typical questions carefully, with your best penmanship. Name, address, grades, sports, race...

"Race? What do they need to know that for," you say to yourself, "I thought all men and women were created equal. Why should my race matter?"

Well unfortunately, many colleges, employers, landlords and other institutions still use race as a factor to determine who they will accept and who they will not.

Maybe there is a certain ethnic group they feel has a reputation for being irresponsible and untrustworthy. Perhaps they think one race works harder or is more intelligent than another. Or maybe they're afraid that if they don't have a certain amount of people from each ethnic background,

someone will accuse them of being biased.

It is time for our government to acknowledge that judging a person by his or her ethnic background is not acceptable.

People apply for a wide variety of things everyday, from car loans to jobs to schools. The government should make the process a lot more equitable by not permitting institutions to consider race as an issue when reviewing applications. With ethnic issues out of the picture, applicants are open to be compared by their genuine qualifications.

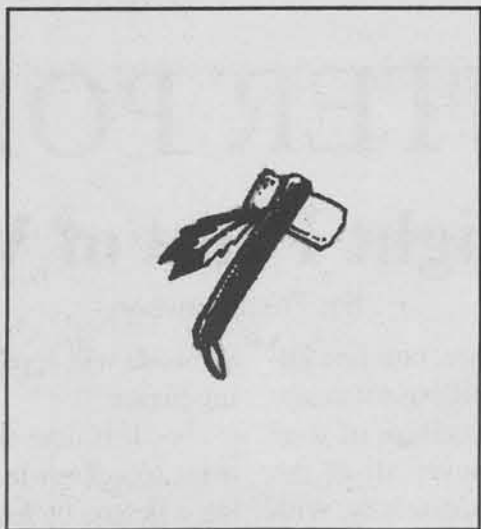
Americans have gone through the last few centuries believing that people could be bracketed into certain stereotypes. Our country must leave these old ways behind and open up equal opportunities for everyone to succeed on their individual merits.



The views presented on these pages are not necessarily those of the staff of the Paladin.  
Thank You

The Paladin would like to announce a brand new Advice Column is being added to our paper. If you have a problem feel free to write a letter and leave it in the marked box in the office.





## Two Minute Warning "The Shanahan Sweepstakes"

By Josh Pruce

I sat down this morning to my bowl of Fruit Loops and a glass of orange juice (a true breakfast of champions) to see a huge picture of Brendan Shanahan on the cover of the Sports section of the Hartford Courant. A huge headline in bold glared out, "Shanahan requests his ticket out." I quickly began to choke on my Froot Loops and wonder, why didn't he announce this earlier? This question, along with others, has been pondered by not only all of the Paladin Sports Staff but the Courant staff and all Hartford Whalers fans. Shanahan's announcement has brought the "Shanahan Sweepstakes" to the National Hockey League. Where will he go? Phoenix, Detroit, Anaheim or will he be in Hartford till the year 2001.

Shanahan wants the bright lights and big city atmosphere of Philadelphia, New York or Detroit. He feels he can never have that here in Hartford, so he has requested this trade. The big word in that sentence is "requested," remember if the Whalers don't want to trade him, they don't have too. All summer long trade rumors for Shanahan have passed through Hartford from the Rangers, Flyers, Detroit, Dallas and Boston. Whaler management have politely said no to all of these offers because they have felt that these deals would not further the Whalers success as a team. Now Shanahan has announced his wishes to be traded and the flood gates have opened. As the preseason comes to a close, it looks like the fate of Shanahan lies in three places.

Rich Ginel and I have discussed all of the possibilities of Shanahan and we have narrowed it down to the follow-

ing three ideas. First idea: Shanahan stays in Hartford with the Whalers. A popular idea with a few but not with 85% of the crowd. People may have to get used to the fact he is going to play here this year. If he scores 50 goals and the Whalers win then I don't care if he wants to play in Timbuktu he is going to be at Hartford. Second idea: Shanahan is dealt to the Detroit Red Wings for Keith Primeau, two defensemen and a draft pick. Primeau was drafted third overall in the 1990 Entry Draft by the Red Wings. Over the past four seasons Primeau has been one of the best crashing centers in the league. He scored a career high 31 goals in the 93-94 seasons.

This trade is not one of the most likely trades going unless Detroit throws in another star.

Third idea: (Our favorite) The Whalers make a blockbuster trade with the Phoenix Coyotes. The deal would have Jeremy Roenick come to the Whalers for Shanahan. Three things hinge on this deal, one the Coyotes give up their quest to sign Roenick. Two, Roenick will come to Hartford and lastly Roenick will sign a multi-year deal with the Whalers. These three things look like they could happen. The Coyotes are fed up with Roenick, and Connecticut is Roenick's home state. The hardest part will be signing Roenick to a multi-year deal. The Whalers would try to ink Roenick for the next four or five years. All of these are options but I believe that the first or third idea will likely happen.

Well if your reading this Jeremy Roenick, please come to Hartford and bring this city a Stanley Cup!

## Football Wins Opener By A Landslide

Glastonbury came out of the gates fast as they blew out South Windsor by over 30 points. Highlights of the game included Senior Julio Cruz rushing for 237 yards. This total is one of the highest to be seen in High School football this year. The entire defense played marvoulously as they created numerous turnovers that turned into easy points for the offense. This team looks to be one of the strongest teams in recent GHS history.

Field Hockey

Due to the failure of the assigned writer to get in the article, no field hockey news will be in this issue.

## Cross Country

The girls' and boys' team put in a formidable performance at the Windham invitational. The boys' team took 5th place in their 12 team Varsity I division with a group time of 1:28.11, good enough to qualify for the state open last year. The team was led by Seniors Ryan Mahoney who ran the 3.1 mile race in 17:20 and Aaron DeLoach who ran it in 17:21. The girls' team also had an impressive showing by placing 13th in the 22 team division Varsity II. Senior Dorrie Gilman highlighted the girls' team by finishing 13th with a 16:20 time on the 4,000 meter course.

## Girls' Volleyball: A Team Effort

By Eric Stein and Josh Spiegelman

This year's Girls Volleyball team has undergone many changes. A new coaching staff has taken over the team and for this is the first time the team has no true superstar. Boys' coaches Steve Geryk and Pat Ryan have taken the helm of the girls team and have tried to mold this team into a champion. The philosophy of this team is a "total team effort." There is no one player on this team that can win it for the team, they play as a team, or lose. The team has a busy preliminary schedule with plenty of tough matches.

Thursday, September 12, the Tomahawks played host to the Trojans of Simsbury, while sitting on a 2-1 record. The first game of the best of five series was tight. Taking advantage of a side out by Senior Erica Wasylishyn with the score 13-12 in Glastonbury's favor, Senior Carolyn Govoni closed out the game to win 15-12.

Simsbury started off the second game by taking a 3-0 lead. When the Tomahawks got the ball back, Wasylishyn got them jump-started with an ace. Suddenly the Tomahawks exploded to take a 6-3 lead forcing Simsbury to call a time-out. With the score 8-7, Glastonbury Senior setter Christine Biscotti served for four straight points to give the Tomahawks a commanding 12-7 lead over the Trojans. The game ended with Junior Bethany Mead serving out three straight points giving

the Tomahawks a 15-7 win in the second game of the match.

To start out the third game, Wasylishyn had a monster spike. With Biscotti serving, the Tomahawks jumped out to a 5-0 lead. Simsbury was again forced to call a time-out. After both teams sided out, Wasylishyn aced the Trojans. The Trojans staged a comeback and cut the deficit to two points. At 11-9, the teams were deadlocked until Senior Maggie Plikaitis served a bullet to give the Tomahawks a 12-9 lead. With the score 14-10, Junior Thao Hau served an ace to close out the match. Assistant Coach Ryan thought the Tomahawks played well progressing throughout the match. Ryan described Wasylishyn as a "tough server." Ryan also added, "She has one speed serving - hard." In this match, Wasylishyn had 6 kills, 6 aces, as well as 4 digs. Setters Senior Kristina Godak and Biscotti also contributed with four assists each.

So far this year's team is off to a pretty good start. When Biscotti was asked about the team and its success so far, she said, "This team is very even in talent, all of the bench is as strong as the starters. It forces you to play well because you know there is someone who can do your job on the bench who is just as good as you. The success of this year's team depends on how we play as a team. All wins will be because of a team effort and nothing else."

## Boys' Soccer Shuts out Competition

On Tuesday, September 17, the Tomahawks played well in a lopsided victory over Weaver, 7-0.

On Friday, they lined up against the Hall Warriors. Towards the end of an ugly first half, Senior Chris Methot scored with an assist from Senior Max Zieky. After a strong pep talk from Coach Ken Mehler, the Tomahawks came out strong in the second half. Strong physical play from Zieky and Senior Chris Russo resulted in two yellow cards for Glastonbury. Even though his teammates couldn't score, Senior Justin Repoli had a good day in goal with three saves. His two key saves came at the end of the first half and at the end of

the game, both stopping Hall threats. The Tomahawks held on for the 1-0 victory.

This Tuesday, the Tomahawks kept up their shutout season with a 4-0 thrashing of Windsor. Early in the game, Senior Greg Damato received a nice pass from Zieky, who got it from a cross from Freshman Brendan Hankard. Minutes later, Senior Jim Hankard put in a header goal from a Russo cornerkick. The ball was delivered from Zieky, who has been having a strong early season at mid for the Tomahawks. Towards the end of the half, Jim Hankard put a nice ball to Chris Methot. The Tomahawks were dominating throughout the game and controlled the pace of the game. Repoli had four saves and kept up his perfect record.

## Girls Soccer Win 3rd, 4th Victories of Season

By Rich Ginel

Glastonbury's last two victories have propelled the Tomahawks up in the rankings to twenty-third in the nation. The Tomahawks traveled to Windsor on Thursday, September 24, and came home with another win, improving their record to 4-0-1. Freshman Jen Zieky scored her second, third and fourth goals of

the season in Glastonbury's 4-0 victory. Senior Stephanie Fish also scored her fourth goal while

Juniors Liz Middleton and Catherine Thompson combined to make two saves.

In a game hyped up to be a tough CCC West battle, it was everything but. On a beautiful

Saturday morning, the Tomahawks played host to the Hall Warriors. Fish opened the scoring

with the first two goals followed by Junior Meredith Barnes' first goal of the season. Barnes fired one from close to mid-field which ended the scoring in the half. Junior Sarah Sargent and

Senior Ashley Flanigan each added a goal on their way to a 5-0 shut-out.



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# Senior Stressors

## Community Service vs. Research Paper

By Carolyn Givoni

This week, seniors will be looking into research paper topics and community service opportunities. It's a toss up, which often makes students lean towards the option of doing community service, to spare them the reading of ten articles and the writing of a hundred indeBy Carolyn Givoni cards. Often others, who play sports, opt to write the paper, assuming this will be the less time-consuming activity.

I took the liberty of speaking with a few old pros on the subject to see what they think is best. Jane Junicki has been pushing the research paper since last year, when her students did a term paper for her. She feels that it is important that each student leaves GHS with the ability to write a good paper. This is a skill that will be necessary when in college and applying for a job.

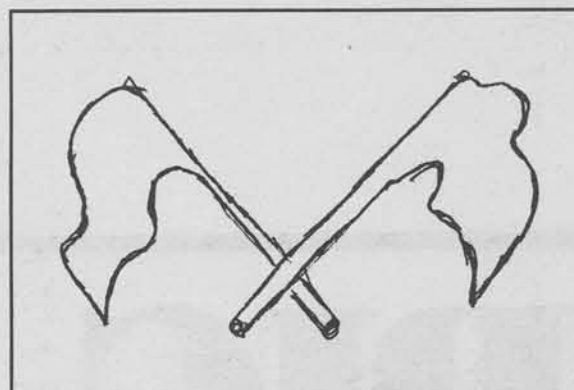
Steve Marino said, "People who play sports will find it difficult to do community service." Community service involves a lot more than just the thirty-five hours of work. It is also necessary to write a journal on your work experiences, and it's common to have to go for an interview and some preliminary information before you are accepted

to volunteer. Marino also made the point that research papers can be worked on in your own spare time, whereas community service hours must be scheduled into someone else's time.

Landers made it clear that, in his opinion, one option is no better than the other. It depends on the student's particular situation. Those who know which one is most ideal for themselves will be the ones who do well with the project, while those who choose poorly will struggle for a good grade and the time to complete a project.

After getting such indecisive answers, I felt it would be best to consult a graduate of Glastonbury High School. Phil Raymond, Class of 1996, undertook the strain of the ten page paper and commented, "This may have been a bad decision, because community service was a great experience for those I spoke with, and it's one of the only times when I may have ever gotten the motivation to do it."

With college hunting to do, and classes to do well in, this will be a struggle no matter what a senior chooses. The key seems to be in knowing what will best fit your own schedule.



## The Glastonbury High School Color Guard: Sport or Not?

By Stacy Norris

Flag Twirling. To some, this colorful and energetic event during half-time of football games may seem like hardly a sport. After all, what kind of practice and dedication is there in waving flags around with a bunch of other people at the same time? Well, to the participants of the GHS color guard, flag twirling is not just a social event, it's a sport.

The first question that crosses my mind when the words 'color guard' are spoken in my vicinity seems to be "is color guard a sport, or just an activity?" Well, should this distraction during half-time of football games be considered a sport? To the members of the color guard squad, it is definitely a sport. Says Heather McRoberts, Junior; "It's a sport. I think there are enough injuries"

Now, the second thing that crosses my mind when I see or hear about color guard is, how much practice does it take for someone to be able to twirl flags like that? To me, it seemed so easy until I tried to twirl a flag one day. As graceful as I tried to be when trying to catch the flag after tossing it up into the air, I only succeeded in giving myself a nice bruise on my forehead. The only thing that my attempt proves, though, is that I cannot twirl flags very easily. Most other people have more coordination than I do.

Apart from all of the other sports at the high school, color guard members play their 'sport' for two seasons; fall and winter.

The fall season runs from September to late November, and is spent performing during half-time of all of the home football games. The color guard is supposed to perform with the marching band during half-time, yet due to the lack of band players interested in march-

ing, the color guard is forced to perform by themselves, to their own music. According to McRoberts, the guard has performed to the music from Spartacus in the past, and their current routine is to the song 'RESPECT' by Aretha Franklin.

When the fall season is finished, the girls get a bit of a break during December before the winter season starts. The winter season runs from January to May, and since the football team does not play during this time the guard busies themselves by performing at color guard competitions all over Connecticut and New Jersey. At these competitions, the guard competes against other teams from the New England area.

Color guard is open to all those interested, and no experience is needed. There are no separate groups in the color guard for beginners and more advanced members. Everyone performs the same routine and learns the same as the others. The only other part of color guard that does exist are the 'rifle lines'; girls who twirl rifles instead of flags. Rifle lines has their own practices apart from the standard color guard, and this group is mostly for anyone interested in twirling rifles. While this may seem like a higher level than the regular color guard, almost anyone can join this, though most feat twirling rifles, in fear of getting hurt.

In fact, not only rifles and flags are used in color guard. The team also does lots of dancing, and also use hula hoops on occasion.

The color guard can be seen during any town parades, and also at the GHS football games. The first football game of the season is Saturday, September 14th at 10:30 AM against South Windsor.

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## News Briefs

### Student Council Dances

The first Student Council dance of the year was held on Friday, September 20th and was a success. The next dance will be the semi-formal Homecoming dance, on Saturday, October 19th.

### Ski Trip

The Ski Club is sponsoring a trip to Park City, Utah from February 14 to the 21. All interested students should see advisor Sharon Straka or Ski Club president Bekah Burr as soon as possible.

### Rotary Scholarships

The Rotary Club is offering scholarships to study abroad. Anyone interested in spending a year in a foreign country should ask for information in Guidance.

### New Board Student Reps

Two new student representatives have been appointed to the Board of Education, Junior Liz Grant and Sophomore Beth Penfield. Congratulations and good luck to both of them.

### S.A.F.E.

New computers and teachers aren't the only thing bringing GHS up to date. This year S.A.F.E, sexual awareness for everyone, a gay/straight alliance group has started up this year. Anyone is welcome and the club will meet once a week. For information ask Mrs. Beach in the health department.

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# Living Colour Rocks

By Luke Baumstark

1994 marked the end of a band that never really gained the respect or support it deserved. Living Colour released its final album, *Pride*, in 1995 to give a sense of closure to the band's breakup. Vernon Reid, the band's guitarist (who has since put out an album of his own), has cited a loss of the band's chemistry for the breakup. *Pride* is similar to a greatest hits album, containing twelve pre-recorded songs, four previously unheard tracks, and a re-mix of a 1990 song.

Living Colour had only one real hit, "Cult of Personality," that was released in 1988 from the album *Vivid*. The band's unique perspective, as the only all black rock-band, led to a unique almost happy funk-rock style that made *Vivid* a platinum album (and the MTV video music award for "best new band") and sent another of its singles "Glamour Boys" into the top 40. The New York foursome's sophomore album, *Time's Up*, went gold and earned the band the honors of "best band" and "best guitarist" for Vernon Reid. *Time's Up* continued in *Vivid*'s funk-rock style but didn't maintain the happy sound, and leaned more towards the rock. Closely following *Time's Up* was *Biscuits*, a little-known EP in which the band tried its hand at James Brown and Jimi Hendrix. 1993 brought the last original release by Living Colour, called *Stain*, in which the band shed its funky skin and went for a much heavier, almost industrial sound. The only song from *Stain* that received any air play was "Nothingness", something of a ballad.

*Pride* is a success in that it captures the versatility of the band well. Within this album is everything from upbeat funk-rock songs, like "What's Your Favorite Colour (Theme Song)" and "Funny Vibe" to hard hitting heavy metallic tracks with an almost "Rage Against the Machine" vibe to them. There's even a dance re-mix of the

bluesy "Love Rears Its Ugly Head", originally from *Time's Up*. The one constant throughout all of this is the proficiency with which it is done, especially from bassists, first Muzz Skillings (*Vivid*, *Time's Up*, *Biscuits*) later Doug Wimbish (*Stain*, & the unreleased tracks). "Release the Pressure" and "Sacred Ground" are both angry songs with a metal/industrial sound. "Visions" and "These Are Happy Times" (the other new tracks) took a very different approach. "Visions" is a ballad akin to "Nothingness", while "These Are Happy Times" reaches back to Living Colour's roots somewhat as a sarcastic industrial blues track.

*Pride* is a rare album, it is one of the select few that fails in the same aspect in which it succeeds. For all that *Pride* has (as far as variety is concerned), it doesn't grab the entire picture. While *Pride* did capture the best of *Vivid* (the band's popular beginnings), and painted a good picture of where the band was at (musically) when it ended, it missed most of the great music that came between these two points. While *Time's Up* is represented by four tracks: "Pride," the hard rock highlight of the album, "Solace of You," a catchy up beat ballad, "Time's Up" an almost interesting track, and "Type," another great hard rock tune, and a remix, there is better, funkier, material on the album itself. And *Stain* was completely misrepresented. The only *Stain* songs featured, the aforementioned "Nothingness" and "WTF!!!" a screechy ballad, totally missed the hard-hitting metal feel of the album.

*Pride* is recommended to anyone who wants a long album with varying feels to it. However, remember that there is much more to the band. To those who enjoyed the *Time's Up* tracks, it is still worthwhile to purchase the album. Also, those who liked the unreleased tracks, or are just looking for a different sound might enjoy *Stain*.



## BEN FOLDS FIVE

By Alan Munshower

If you don't recognize the name by now, you must have been in a coma for the past year. Ben Folds Five headed the second stage at Lollapalooza for the first half of the tour, made numerous appearances on MTV News, and have been touring with everyone from 3 lb. Thill to Neil Young and the Gin Blossoms. If that's not enough, they've had tracks on two recent motion picture soundtracks: "Mr. Wrong" and "The Truth About Cats and Dogs". This new trio is from Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and with their self-titled debut album they have impressed the music industry.

The album kicks off with Ben Fold's heavy fingered piano playing. The first song, titled "Jackson Cannery" displays Ben's song-writing ability, and the band's ability to mold their sound together. The following song, "Philosophy" takes textbook piano arpeggios, and turns them into an amazing display of Ben's talent. For the end of the song, Folds takes the piano riff to Gerswin's "Rhapsody In Blue" (known as the United Airlines theme), and throws it into an uptempo mix of fury and skill.

Ben Folds Five likes to refer to themselves as "punk rock for sissies", and it is evident why on the crazy "Julianne". Piano player Ben Folds writes all of the songs, with the exceptions of non-band member, Anna Goodman on two tracks, and drummer Darren Jessee on "Where's Summer B."

On the track "Underground", the group expresses their opinions of the alternative music scene. Also, on "Sports and Wine" and "Uncle Walter", the three-man band lets us know where they stand on certain issues, while displaying their great song-writing ability. For those of you who absolutely need guitar in the music that you listen to, bassist Robert Sledge's warm tone distortion fulfills your needs on songs like "Best Imitation of Myself" and the waltzy "Video".

"The Last Polka" is a crazy, all-out song that develops into chaos by the middle of the song, and then deteriorates into a scale up the piano. Fueled by Darren Jessee's drum beat, Ben's playing reaches its peak on this track. The song then leads into the final track on the album, "Boxing", a strong ballad performed mainly by Ben on the piano. His majestic playing eventually leads into the entrance of two violins, a viola, and a cello, followed by the rest of the band. The last time through goes back to solo Ben. An incredible finish.

Now you know more about what "Rolling Stone" called "possibly the debut album of the year". This album brings back the sounds of Joe Jackson and early Billy Joel. So go check out "Ben Folds Five".



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## The Crow-City of Angels Soundtrack

By Stacy Norris

All right, music fans, it's finally here - a movie soundtrack with hard, alternative rock flair. Looking for something really loud that doesn't have the same old boring sound to it? Then this is for you!

This is a CD packed with great music by artists like Hole, White Zombie, Korn, Bush, and Toadies. The first song, as it well should be (since it is by far the most popular song on this CD), is "Gold Dust Woman" by Hole. In a world of really bad remakes, Hole does it right. This song rocks, and is a great introduction to this soundtrack. One must wonder if the rest of the songs could be quite as good. The rest of the CD was certainly a pleasant surprise. The only two songs that may turn people off are the rap songs. These two songs, though not completely unbearable, just don't add to the nice flavor of the CD.

Apart from "Gold Dust Woman," this CD has many other good songs like "Naked Cousin" by PJ Harvey, and "Sean Olson" by Korn, which have potential to get more airtime. Since there have been really mixed ratings of this movie, I think it would be reasonable to conclude that this CD is much better than the movie, and conveys more of the dark and somewhat violent mood than the movie to which it belongs.

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# The Adventures of Porridge Boy

## "You Are What You Eat"

By Luke Baumstark

Once upon a time, in a land far, far away, there lived a young prince named Wilford of the fourth house of Brimly, son of Nugey, king of all of Rekud. All of the people in this land were very health-conscious and ate a near perfectly balanced diet, as they all believed in an ancient proverb - "You are what you eat". And so, a great philosopher of the realm once stated that the only way to retain a fine human shape was to eat a balanced diet. Woe-fully, young Wilford did not heed the words of this wise man, and brought upon himself considerable misery because of his arrogance. Listen well, child and you will hear the truly inspirational tale of the perilous adventures of Wilford Brimly.

Wilford was not any ordinary boy by any means. In his medieval society, while the other little boys were off pretending to be knights fighting dragons, and romping about, Wilford sat inside and played with his favorite toy, a bowl of Quaker's Oats. He would draw pictures in his oats, sing it songs, smear it all over himself in an attempt to better understand it and even tried to leash it and take it for a walk. If Wilford had been any other boy, this behavior would be dismissed as a harmless phase. But Wilford was not any other boy, as son of Nugey, Rekud's monarch this behavior was simply not acceptable. Nugey ignored his son's disgrace for as long as was possible, hoping that inevitably Wilford would become bored with his porridge. But, by the time puberty arrived he decided he could wait no longer. Wilford cared much more about his bowl of Quaker's Oats than about maidens. This being the last straw, Nugey knew that he had to act or see his son become a hopeless oatmeal junkie.

One beautiful summer day, as the sun blazed down on the castle courtyard with just the right intensity, young Wilford sat in his room mashing the contents of his bowl between his fingers. He watched as his father, a powerfully built man of about forty with shoulder length gray hair and a thin mustache and beard, strolled into the room and seated himself on the bed, which sat against the back wall of the room and was covered by a massive porridge colored blanket. Nugey looked at his scrawny son of fifteen, who

stood at about 6'1" with tussled blonde hair and skin as white as a sheet of paper, before he began with a powerful, yet sympathetic voice. "Boy, I think its about time we had a talk - about porridge. Don't get me wrong, I mean, porridge can be a good thing. I've enjoyed the pleasures of a warm bowl of porridge on occasion myself, but I think it may be time to say goodbye to your bowl."

"But father-" Wilford interjected.

"But nothing son," the king replied. "Your behavior is simply unhealthy - all you eat is porridge dammit! As if this is not bad enough, you spend all of your free time playing with it, and it's not even warm, 'tis cold porridge!" Nugey blurted out, tears welling in his eyes. "I love you my son, but I cannot, nay I will not, stand by and watch you waste your life away, drip by lumpy drip of porridge. Hand me your bowl."

"Never! Wilford shouted. "you can't take Clarence away from me. I won't let you. And he's not porridge, he's Quaker's oats, he stated calmly before taking the only action left to him. He hastily began consuming "Clarence".

The king quickly grasped for Wilford's arms, but he was too late. As Wilford defiantly swallowed his only friend, the horrible process began. Slowly Wilford's fingers became less solid, as the feeling shot up his arms and throughout his body, he noticed that he was letting off a bright white light. Next, his skin color changed from the aforementioned white to a dull tan, some sections being darker than others. His well defined features melted away, leaving a plain, and slightly lumpy epidermis. When the unmistakable wafting scent of maple & brown sugar filled the air both knew without a doubt what had transpired.

"Damn you Quaker," Nugey whispered grimly as he released his grip on his son's arms only to find them covered with porridge. The philosopher had been right, you truly were what you ate, and Wilford had become a horrible mass of living porridge.

Immediately, in an effort to hide himself from his horrified father, Wilford leapt out of the stone window beside his bed. He flew through the air slowly as his semi-solid body fanned-out to

create a parachute like structure. Unfortunately, he could not slow himself enough and he splattered all over the green grasses of the surrounding castle yard. After a second or two, he re-assembled himself and slurped into the surrounding woods.

Back in Wilford's chamber, Nugey had fainted.

Wilford fled for as long as he could, which was actually quite a long time, as he had been imbued with the might of every one of the Quaker's oats, before collapsing in a heap in the center of a forest clearing. He slowly rose to his feet whispering, "Clarence, I can feel you inside me. It's almost, no it is, it's zany, wacky and kooky, and at the same time it's nifty!". He spent the next few hours near the center of the grassy clearing, surrounded by trees on all sides, sitting on a short tree stump, experimenting with his newfound powers. He discovered the useful ability to emit the sweet scent of maple & brown sugar at will, mold certain sections of his

body to whatever shape he desired, and the uncanny ability to sniff out any quaker's oats, porridge, cream of wheat, or other similar substances within a radius of miles equal to the value of pi. He studied these abilities for the remainder of the day, making vain efforts to perfect them before coming to a strange conclusion. "In my new form, I shall need a new name. Wilford of the fourth house of Brimly certainly will not do. I have not yet proven my worth in this world, so I cannot yet claim the title 'Captain Quaker'. I must begin with a more humble name. Ah yes, my father put it best all these years, henceforth I shall call myself Porridge Boy!". And with this, the newly proclaimed Porridge Boy strolled victoriously out of the clearing and towards the nearest town.

For more of Wilford's wacky adventures, look in the next issue of the Paladin - same oat section, same oat column.

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